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**PIKE COUNTY MAN CONVICTED OF CONSPIRACY,
POSSESSION OF COUNTERFEIT SECURITY OF AN ORGANIZATION,
MAIL FRAUD AND WIRE FRAUD**

SAVANNAH, GA: Lisa Godbey Wood, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today that **James Patrick Densmore** was convicted on February 15, 2006 by a jury sitting in United States District Court in Savannah, following a three-day trial.

Densmore was convicted on one count of conspiring to (a) possess a counterfeit security of an organization; (b) commit mail fraud; (c) commit wire fraud; and (d) commit money laundering, one count of possessing a counterfeit security of an organization, two counts of mail fraud, and five counts of wire fraud. The charges and conviction stemmed from Densmore's role as the perpetrator of an advanced fee fraud scheme. Densmore and his co-conspirator Richard Smiley solicited numerous victims in the Savannah and Atlanta area for short-term loans by promising the victims that their loans were being used to complete a lucrative commercial truck transaction. The evidence at trial showed that there was never a commercial truck transaction and that the funds provided by victims were used to pay back a victim of an earlier fraudulent commercial truck financing scheme, and by Densmore to purchase Rolex watches, cars and a

home. During the course of the scheme, victims were shown a copy of an official bank check made payable for \$43,000,000.00 as proof of the representations made by Densmore. In fact, the check was counterfeit. Victims were also provided with a notarized promissory note from a purported accountant and a letter about the commercial truck transaction from a purported lawyer. The evidence at trial established that the promissory note had also been fraudulently notarized. Six victims of the scheme testified against Densmore. Their cumulative losses amounted to more than \$1,000,000.00.

Densmore will be sentenced upon the completion of a pre-sentence investigation report. The charges for which he has been convicted carry a maximum sentence of five years imprisonment for the conspiracy count, 10 years imprisonment for the possession of a counterfeit security of an organization count, and 20 years imprisonment for each mail and wire fraud count. The sentencing court may also order that Densmore pay restitution and a fine of \$250,000 per count, as well serve a period of supervised release for up to three years following his incarceration.

Wood said that the investigation of Densmore began after area victims contacted the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department. The case was investigated by Special Agents Allan Malone, Troy Stamps and Andrea Peacock of the United States Secret Service. The United States was represented by Assistant United States Attorneys Robert M. Brennan and Brian F. McEvoy.

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